

Additional Reading List on the Role and Future of Public Libraries

As Promised here are a few additional links to articles and studies you may find interesting
— — *or* discover some articles or videos on your own and bring those ideas to our committee discussions.

Overall:

*Pew Research Center - Internet, Science and Technology <http://www.pewinternet.org/topics/libraries/>

This site has numerous articles and presentations (just slides, no sound) on library related topics. Most articles include relevant survey information (& info on survey methods for the curious and critical reader).

Some suggested choices: “Book Reading 2016” 9/16 (is book reading really in decline?)
“Library Services in the Digital Age” 1/13 —a longer study

*Urban Libraries Council <http://www.urbanlibraries.org/innovations-pages-394.php>

This site honors library innovations each year in a variety of categories. Articles describing the innovations of the winners and runners-up are about a page and a half long.

Studies:

These are generally longer and more comprehensive, but can offer chapters you may be particularly interested in rather than ingesting the whole.

*Rising to the Challenge: Re-Envisioning Public Libraries by the Aspen Institute
<http://csreports.aspeninstitute.org/documents/AspenLibrariesReport.pdf>
—along with an implementation document:

*Library Action Guide for Re-Envisioning Your Public Library

Deb Haeffner of the South Central Library System said that these resources have been used by several communities in our region in their planning for expansion or building of new libraries.

*Branches of Opportunity: a publication of the Center for an Urban Future 1/13
https://nycfuture.org/images_pdfs/pdfs/BranchesofOpportunity.pdf

This focusses on New York City libraries —first five chapters (total of 12 pages) may be of interest: “for immigrants, a trusted resource”; “senior centers with a difference”; “getting ready for work”; “out of the classroom, into the library”; “getting down to business”.

*Confronting the Future: Strategic Visions for the 21st Century Public Library 6/11 by the American Library Association - Office of Info Tech Policy http://www.ala.org/offices/sites/ala.org.offices/files/content/oitp/publications/policybriefs/confronting_the_futu.pdf

*Grand Forks Library - Final Report: Recommendations and Research 10/13 <http://gflibrary.com/DocumentCenter/View/346> report by a citizen library task force

Shorter Articles:

*What is a Library? Katie Gilbert 1/14 <http://narrative.ly/what-is-a-library/>
changes in the library service systems

*The Future of Libraries Has Little to do with Books, Rosie Spinks 1/15 <https://www.good.is/articles/public-libraries-reimagined>

*The Future of Public Libraries, Jared Oates 8/15
<http://www.nicheacademy.com/blog/the-future-of-public-libraries>

*The North West London Blues, Zadie Smith 9/16 (short essay from a library user)
<http://www.nybooks.com/daily/2012/06/02/north-west-london-blues/>

*So Now What? The Future of Librarians, Steve Coffman 1/13 wide ranging essay by a long time librarian
<http://www.infotoday.com/OnlineSearcher/Articles/Features/So-Now-What-The-Future-for-Librarians-86856.shtml>

*Thoughts from a Future Librarian, (excerpted from a librarians' group site) see document at library website

*In Omaha, A Library with No Books Brings Technology to All, Bill Kelly 5/16
<http://www.npr.org/sections/alltechconsidered/2016/05/31/477819498/in-omaha-a-library-with-no-books-brings-technology-to-all>

*Can Fewer Books on the Shelf Improve Nebraska Libraries? Bill Kelly 11/15
<http://netnebraska.org/article/news/1001507/can-fewer-books-shelf-improve-nebraska-libraries>